MARVEL·ARTS
THE AVENGERS
in THE
VERACITY TRAP!
CHIP KIDD • MICHAEL CHO

YES! HA HA HA HA!

MARVEL ARTS

THE AVENGERS *in* THE VERACITY TRAP

STORY BY **CHIP KIDD**

SCRIPT BY **CHIP KIDD** WITH **MICHAEL CHO**

ART AND COLOR BY **MICHAEL CHO**

ABRAMS COMICARTS • NEW YORK

FOR ME. I EARNED IT. —C.K.

FOR JACK KIRBY, WHO BUILT UNIVERSES WITH JUST A PENCIL —M.C.

THANK YOU: THIS BOOK WOULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT CHARLIE KOCHMAN'S PASSION, EDITORIAL BRILLIANCE, AND GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT. HE IS THE *BEST*; MICHAEL CHO NOT ONLY FIGURED OUT HOW TO DRAW MY CRAZY STORY, HE ALSO SOMEHOW BROUGHT IT TO PHENOMENAL, JOY-INDUCED LIFE. AT ABRAMS: THANK YOU, SHAWN DAHL AND JOSH JOHNSON, FOR DOING ALL THE HEAVY LIFTING; I WILL NEVER TAKE IT FOR GRANTED. THE HELP OF LYDIA NGUYEN, MARIE OISHI, AND ALISON GERVAIS WAS INVALUABLE. AT MARVEL: TOM BREVOORT (HE WHO KNOWS ALL!) CAUGHT ALL OF MY MISTAKES REGARDING MARVEL LORE AND MADE ME LOOK LIKE I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. AND ALEX ROSS: YOU MAKE IT REAL. YOU ALWAYS DO. —C.K.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ANTHONY FALCONE —M.C.

FOR ABRAMS
EDITOR: Charles Kochman
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Lydia Nguyen
DESIGNER: Chip Kidd and Josh Johnson
ART DIRECTOR: Shawn Dahl
MANAGING EDITOR: Marie Oishi
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Alison Gervais

FOR MARVEL
EDITOR: Tom Brevoort
EDITOR IN CHIEF: C.B. Cebulski
VP, PRODUCTION AND SPECIAL PROJECTS: Jeff Youngquist
EDITOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS: Sarah Singer
MANAGER, LICENSED PUBLISHING: Jeremy West
VP, LICENSED PUBLISHING: Sven Larsen
VP, PRINT & DIGITAL PUBLISHING: David Gabriel

SERIES CONSULTANT: Alex Ross

Coloring by Michael Cho
Lettering by VC's Joe Caramagna

Library of Congress Cataloging Number 2024943713
ISBN 978-1-4197-7067-8
eISBN 979-8-88707-137-4

© 2025 MARVEL

Published in 2025 by Abrams ComicArts, a division of ABRAMS. All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

Printed and bound in China
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Abrams ComicArts books are available at special discounts when purchased in quantity for premiums and promotions as well as fundraising or educational use. Special editions can also be created to specification. For details, contact specialsales@abramsbooks.com or the address below.

Abrams ComicArts® is a registered trademark of Harry N. Abrams, Inc.

ABRAMS The Art of Books
195 Broadway, New York, NY 10007
abramsbooks.com

ABRAMS is represented in the UK and Europe by Abrams & Chronicle Books, 1 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9JU and Média-Participations, 57 rue Gaston Tessier, 75166 Paris, France.
abramsandchronicle.co.uk and media-participations.com
info@abramsandchronicle.co.uk

"I LIKE IT." —ALEX ROSS

"IT WORKS BECAUSE WE SAY IT WORKS." —TOM BREVOORT

"OKAY, WE START SOMEWHERE IN ASGARD..."
READY YOURSELVES, FOOLS! HERE COME THE AVENGERS!

LOOK AT THOSE THINGS... HOW DREADFUL!

WHATEVER *LOKI* IS HIDING, HE'S GATHERED AN ARMY TO DEFEND IT!

ATTACK!

WHERE DID LOKI GET ALL THESE MONSTERS FROM?

HE MUST HAVE PULLED THEM FROM ACROSS THE UNIVERSE!

LESS TALKING! MORE SMASHING!

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
HULK IS RIGHT! WE CAN FIGURE OUT THE HOW AND WHY LATER!
the GOLDEN AVENGER
IRON MAN

GRAAAAGHH!
HUH, I SEE A FAMILY RESEMBLANCE HERE.
DON'T WORRY, BOYS. I'VE GOT ENOUGH TRANSISTOR POWER FOR BOTH OF YOU!
BZZZAPPP!

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
NICE WORK, SHELLHEAD! NOW IT'S MY TURN!
CAPTAIN AMERICA
SENTINEL of LIBERTY

TWO AGAINST ONE HARDLY SEEMS FAIR...
WHY DON'T YOU SIT THIS INNING OUT, HANDSOME?
GLUCKK!!
UH-OH, WE GOT A RUNNER ROUNDING THIRD BASE...!

WHAMM!
...AND HE'S OUT!
LOOKS LIKE TWO MORE STEPPING UP TO BAT!
HEY, CAP...

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
MIND IF WE CUT IN?
GIANT-MAN
and the WONDERFUL WASP

RAAWWRRR!
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK THAT WAY TO MY GIRLFRIEND?
KA
KR
AK
K!
GRAAAA!
UH-OH.
I'VE GOT THIS, HANK! QUICK, GET THEM IN A HEADLOCK!

GGRRAAAACK!
NOW THE OTHER ONE!

SSSHHLLOPP!

OH MY GOD! THAT'S THE SECOND MOST DISGUSTING THING I'VE EVER DONE IN MY LIFE!
BAH! NO FAIR!

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
HULK WANT IN ON THE FUN!
the INCREDIBLE
HULK

OH, THERE'S PLENTY MORE FOR YOU, YOU BRAINLESS OAF!
HEH, HULK GLAD TO MEET YOU!
???
HAHAHAHA!

SMACKK!
HAHAHAHA!
MORE! MORE SMASHING!
I THINK THAT'S ALL OF THEM, BIG GUY.
NOT QUITE. WHERE DID LOKI RUN OFF TO?
MORE IMPORTANT, WHERE'S THOR?

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
MJOLNIR, MY ENCHANTED HAMMER! LEAD ME TO LOKI AND HIS NEFARIOUS PURPOSE!
THE MIGHTY THOR
PRINCE of ASGARD

MMMMMMMM!
THE HAMMER FLIES TRUE! THIS ANCIENT TEMPLE MUST GUARD LOKI'S EVIL SECRET!
HALT, PRINCE OF ASGARD!
YOUR PATH ENDS HERE! SO SPEAKS ULIK!

LONG HAVE THE ASGARDIAN SONGS BOASTED OF YOUR MIGHT!
BUT TODAY I CRUSH YOUR BONES TO POWDER! TODAY THE SON OF ODIN BOWS TO ULIK!
I SAY THEE NAY.
THE GOD OF THUNDER BOWS TO NO ONE!
KRA-KA-KOOOM!

NOW, BROTHER, I WOULD HAVE WORDS WITH THEE.
BY SURTUR'S FIERY BEARD!
MMMMMMMMM!
WHAT DEVILRY HAS LOKI CREATED NOW?!
WHATEVER IT IS, IT MUST BE DESTROYED!
HOLD, BROTHER!

A MARVEL MASTERWORK PIN-UP
YOU GAZE UPON THE MAGNIFICENCE OF MY VERACITY VORTEX! YOU CANNOT HOPE TO COMPREHEND ITS POWER!
LOKI
the EVIL ONE!
THOR'S ETERNAL ENEMY!

WHATEVER THE NAME, IT WILL SOON BE NAUGHT BUT A MEMORY, SCATTERED ACROSS THE COSMOS!
WHY DOES MJOLNIR NOT RETURN?! WHERE HAVE YOU SENT IT?!
HA! YOU CANNOT IMAGINE! SEE FOR YOURSELF-- 'TIS A REALM BEYOND YOUR FEEBLE COMPREHENSION!
I KNOW 'TIS A TRAP, BUT I MUST RETRIEVE MJOLNIR!

WHHHOOO

GOLDILOCKS! THERE YOU ARE!
UHNN...

BY THE GODS! WE ARE... NOT *REAL?*
WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT?

EASY, BIG FELLA. YOU LOOK PRETTY SHAKEN UP!
THE GLOWING BALL FRIED HIS BRAIN!

NAY! 'TIS THE VERACITY VORTEX! AND...IT HAS SHOWN ME... THE TRUTH!
THE VERACI-- WHAT?

YOU'VE HAD A SHOCK, THOR. YOU'RE NOT--
NAY. HEED ME, COMRADES. WE EXIST IN A SORT OF CODEX CALLED A... *COMIC BOOK!* IT IS CONSIDERED BY MANY TO BE LITERATURE OF THE LOWEST ORDER!
SOMEONE OUTSIDE OUR REALM ILLUSTRATES US ON A PAPER CALLED BRISTOL, RENDERING OUR LIVES WITH...
A *PENCIL!*
THEN ANOTHER HAND TAKES THOSE PAGES AND COMPLETES THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN *INK!* BUT THEY ARE NO MERE TRACERS!
AND YET ANOTHER PARTY APPLIES PIGMENT TO THOSE ILLUSTRATIONS, USING SOMETHING CALLED A *FOUR-COLOR PROCESS!* THEY AREN'T PAID NEARLY ENOUGH, BUT WHAT CHOICE DO THEY HAVE? THEY'RE STILL WAITING FOR *AD AGENCY CALLBACKS* TO WORK ON ACTUAL ACCOUNTS! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, YET IT WAS REVEALED TO ME AS SUCH!

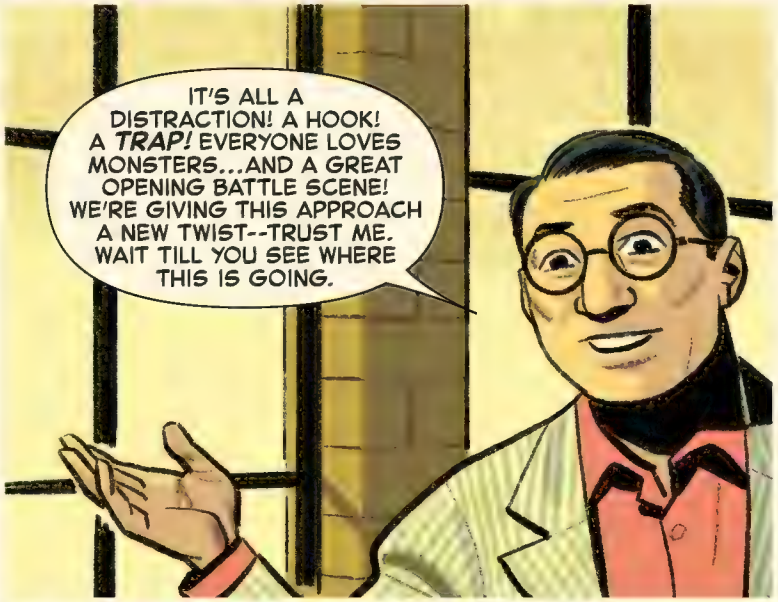
WE POSSESS NO FREE WILL! THE STORIES OF OUR LIVES ARE IMPRINTED ON WRETCHED SCROLLS CALLED NEWSPRINT, BETRAYING VISIBLE CHUNKS OF WOOD PULP UPON ITS CRUDE SURFACE!
THE PAGES ARE GATHERED WITHIN A GLOSSY COVERING AND BOUND TOGETHER WITH PATHETIC METAL RIVETS CALLED STAPLES. AND WE ARE ALMOST NEVER IN REGISTER! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, EITHER.
THE PAMPHLETS OF OUR ADVENTURES APPEAR UPON THE DAWN OF EACH MONTH, AND THEY ALMOST ALWAYS END IN CLIFFHANGERS SO READERS KEEP BUYING OUR STORIES.
EVEN THESE WORDS I SPEAK NOW WERE...WRITTEN FOR ME.
HE'S DELIRIOUS!
WHAT DID THAT THING DO TO HIM, CAP?
I'M NOT SURE. BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT...

HMMMM...

I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS WORKING, CHIP.

ARE YOU NUTS? *MIKE*, THIS IS PURE GOLD! YOU'RE KNOCKING IT OUT OF THE PARK!

I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT THIS WHOLE *META* TAKE. IT'S BEEN DONE BEFORE. BESIDES, WHY DOES LOKI NEED TO USE THE MONSTERS AT ALL? THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. WHAT'S THE POINT?


IT'S ALL A DISTRACTION! A HOOK! A *TRAP!* EVERYONE LOVES MONSTERS...AND A GREAT OPENING BATTLE SCENE! WE'RE GIVING THIS APPROACH A NEW TWIST--TRUST ME. WAIT TILL YOU SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING.

HEY, DO YOU FEEL THAT RUMBLE? IT'S LIKE A--

WHHHOOOOM!
UHH... WELL, THAT WAS... UNPLEASANT.

OH GOD, MY WIFE WARNED ME ABOUT PULLING TOO MANY ALL-NIGHTERS. I'M HALLUCINATING!
BUT I SEE IT TOO!
WHERE *ARE* WE?!
I THINK I'M GONNA PASS OUT.
CLEARLY WE'RE NOT IN ASGARD ANYMORE.

BUT... HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
WE ENTERED THE VERACITY VORTEX AND ORDERED IT TO TAKE US TO ITS SOURCE.

OKAY, OKAY... WHOEVER PUT YOU UP TO THIS OBVIOUSLY SPENT A LOT OF MONEY. THOSE COSTUMES ARE GREAT, BUT I'VE SEEN BETTER. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

BOYS, LOOK AT THIS!

IT'S YOU! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CREATED THE VERACITY VORTEX!
I'M JUST *DRAWING* THE STORY! HE'S THE ONE WHO *WROTE IT!*
WAIT, NO COSPLAY IS *THAT* GOOD. YOU'RE REALLY--

IF THE TWO OF YOU CREATED THE VORTEX, THEN MAYHAP THE TWO OF YOU CAN DESTROY IT! YOU ARE COMING WITH US!
WAIT! WAIT! WE'RE--
--ON A DEADLIIIIINE!

WHHH

OOMM!

OOF. THAT'S NOT GETTING ANY EASIER...
I FEEL SO... STRANGE. LIKE I'M...
HEY, WE'RE... KIDS AGAIN?
HOW AM I GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS TO MY FAMILY?!
IT'S ALL HOPELESS. IF WE'RE NOT IN CONTROL OF OUR OWN LIVES AND WE CAN'T MAKE OUR OWN DECISIONS, THEN... WHAT'S THE POINT?
NO... IT'S THE VERACITY VORTEX! IT'S SAPPING OUR WILL...TAKING AWAY OUR RESOLVE! WE HAVE TO FIGHT AGAINST IT! THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE!

WE HAVE TO FIX THIS! I WAS WRONG-- I THOUGHT THE VERACITY VORTEX WOULD BE A FUN GIMMICK--BUT I'VE CREATED A *MENACE!* WE'VE GOT TO UNDO THIS THING!
HULK FEEL... NO ENERGY... NO ANGER. HULK JUST BORED...
...AND SLEEPY.
YOU'RE THE WRITER OF THIS STORY. IS THIS... WHAT YOU HAD IN MIND?
NO! BUT I'M NO LONGER IN CONTROL! MAYBE OUR *EDITOR* MADE CHANGES AND DIDN'T RUN THEM BY ME? I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE ANYMORE!
WELL, DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT...
DOOOOMMM!

DOOOOMMMM!!
HOLY COW!
OH MY GOD...

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? CALL THAT-- THOSE THINGS-- OFF!
I'M TRYING! MAYBE IF I UNTHINK THEM?!
DOOOOMMMM!
QUICK, HANK! GROW US!
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME IS HANK?
AND BESIDES, IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT.
DOOOOMMMM!

WELL, THEN SHRINK US! MAKE US ALL MICROSCOPIC!
HEH...IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY EITHER.
YOU'RE THE WRITER--YOU REALLY SHOULD KNOW THAT.
I'M NOT WRITING THIS STORY. IF I WAS, BELIEVE ME, IT WOULD MAKE A WHOLE LOT MORE SENSE.
DOOOOOOMMMMMM!
WHAT DO WE DO?! WHAT DO WE DO?!
WE CAN'T SEND THEM THROUGH THE VERACITY VORTEX AGAIN--ANOTHER TRIP MIGHT KILL THEM.
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT OUR BEST BET IS FOR YOU AND ME TO GO BACK THROUGH THE VORTEX AND TRY TO FIX IT FROM THE OTHER SIDE!
YOU MEAN JUST LEAVE THEM HERE? THEY'LL BE SLAUGHTERED! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
I'M OUT OF IDEAS! AND WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ME TO TAKE A WALK AROUND THE BLOCK AND CLEAR MY HEAD.
BUT WE SEEM TO HAVE MORE POWER IN OUR REALM THAN WE DO HERE! SO LET'S GO!

WHH
OM!

THAT...SEEMS TO HAVE WORKED. THE TWO-HEADED THING IS SUSPENDED HERE ON THE PAGE, ABOUT TO STOMP THEM. BUT HOW DO WE...
WAIT! IT'S OBVIOUS! WE JUST WRITE AND DRAW LOKI DEFEATED AND THAT'LL BE THE END OF IT!
WELL, THAT'S NOT THE MOST COMPELLING OF ENDINGS. IT'S KIND OF BORING TO JUST--
WHAT'S WRONG?
HOLD ON. I CAN'T...?
I...CAN'T SEEM TO DRAW LOKI ANYMORE. IT'S LIKE...I START TO DRAW HIM AND I JUST...CAN'T! LIKE I'M UNDER A SPELL. I CAN DRAW THE OTHERS, BUT...
SO LET'S TAKE THE STORY IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION-- TONY STARK IS IN THE SUIT AS HE TRIES TO DISARM A NUCLEAR REACTOR.
BUT THE REACTOR MELTS DOWN BEFORE HE CAN STOP IT! AND HIS ENTIRE BODY AND NERVOUS SYSTEM GETS FUSED INTO THE ARMOR!
HE'S MADE ONE WITH THE SUIT! IT'S EXCRUCIATING TO USE IT. EVERY SECOND OF HIS LIFE IS AGONIZING PAIN! BUT HE STRUGGLES ON--A TRUE MAN IN THE IRON MASK FOR THE ATOMIC AGE!

WAIT, WHAT? THAT'S THE NASTIEST IDEA EVER! I'M NOT GONNA DRAW THAT!
INDEED, YOU SHOULD NOT.
THOR! YOU FOLLOWED US THROUGH THE VERACITY VORTEX? ARE THE OTHERS SAFE?
BARELY, NO THANKS TO YOU. YOU CAN ONLY HIDE FROM ME FOR SO LONG BEFORE YOUR BEHAVIOR BETRAYS YOU.
FWAAMMMM!
THOR! NO!

HEH...THIS WORKED EVEN BETTER THAN I'D PLANNED. I FINALLY FOUND A WAY TO CREATE THE VERACITY VORTEX. AND IT HAD TO BE IN THIS REALM, WHERE ALL ONE HAS TO DO IS IMAGINE AND DRAW IT--AND THEN IT *EXISTS* AND *FUNCTIONS* IN OUR WORLD!
BUT... WHY DOES THE VORTEX NOT AFFECT YOU? AND WHAT IS IT FOR?
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU? IT'S A PORTAL BETWEEN TWO LINKED REALMS--ONE WHERE WE EXIST, AND ONE WHERE WE ARE BUT STORIES.
YET STORIES HAVE POWER. MERE FICTION IN THIS REALM BECOMES *GOSPEL TRUTH* IN OURS. AND HE WHO HAS CONTROL OVER THESE TALES CAN RULE OVER OUR ENTIRE UNIVERSE.
AND YOU ASK WHY AM I UNAFFECTED? BECAUSE, WITLESS BROTHER, I AM THE *GOD OF STORIES!*
SO *I* AM TELLING THE STORY NOW--ONE WHERE EVERY TIME YOU AND YOUR COMRADES GO THROUGH THE VORTEX, YOUR WILL TO CARRY ON LESSENS, NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY TO FIGHT IT. DARE YOU FOLLOW ME?
THOR, DON'T! YOU'LL DIE!
IF THE GODS--AND HUMANS--WILL IT, BUT...I... MUST... STOP HIM!

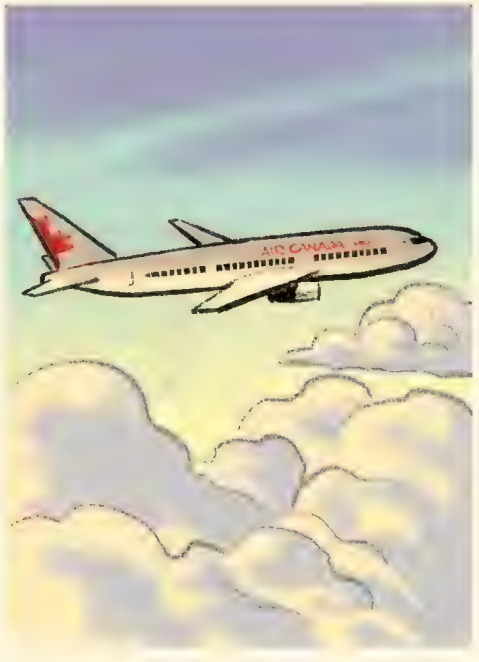
BOOP! BOOP!
BOOP!
BOOP!
CALL
1(212)-

HEY, MIKE! LONG TIME! WHAT'S UP?

SAY, DID YOU EVER GET ANYWHERE WITH THAT MARVEL PITCH I SENT YOU? THE ONE WITH LOKI CREATING A KIND OF TRUTH TUNNEL THING TO CONVINCE THE AVENGERS THAT THEY DON'T REALLY EXIST? I STILL THINK THAT HAS POSSIBILITIES.
UH, CHIP?
YES? SAY, ARE YOU OKAY?

TWENTY MINUTES LATER

SO, LOKI...SOMEHOW FOUND OUT ABOUT MY STORY IDEA AND PRETENDED TO BE ME? WOW. I'M... FLATTERED?
WE NEED TO FIX THIS! TOGETHER. BUT I NEED TO BE SURE IT'S REALLY YOU. HOW SOON CAN YOU GET HERE?


AIR CANADA

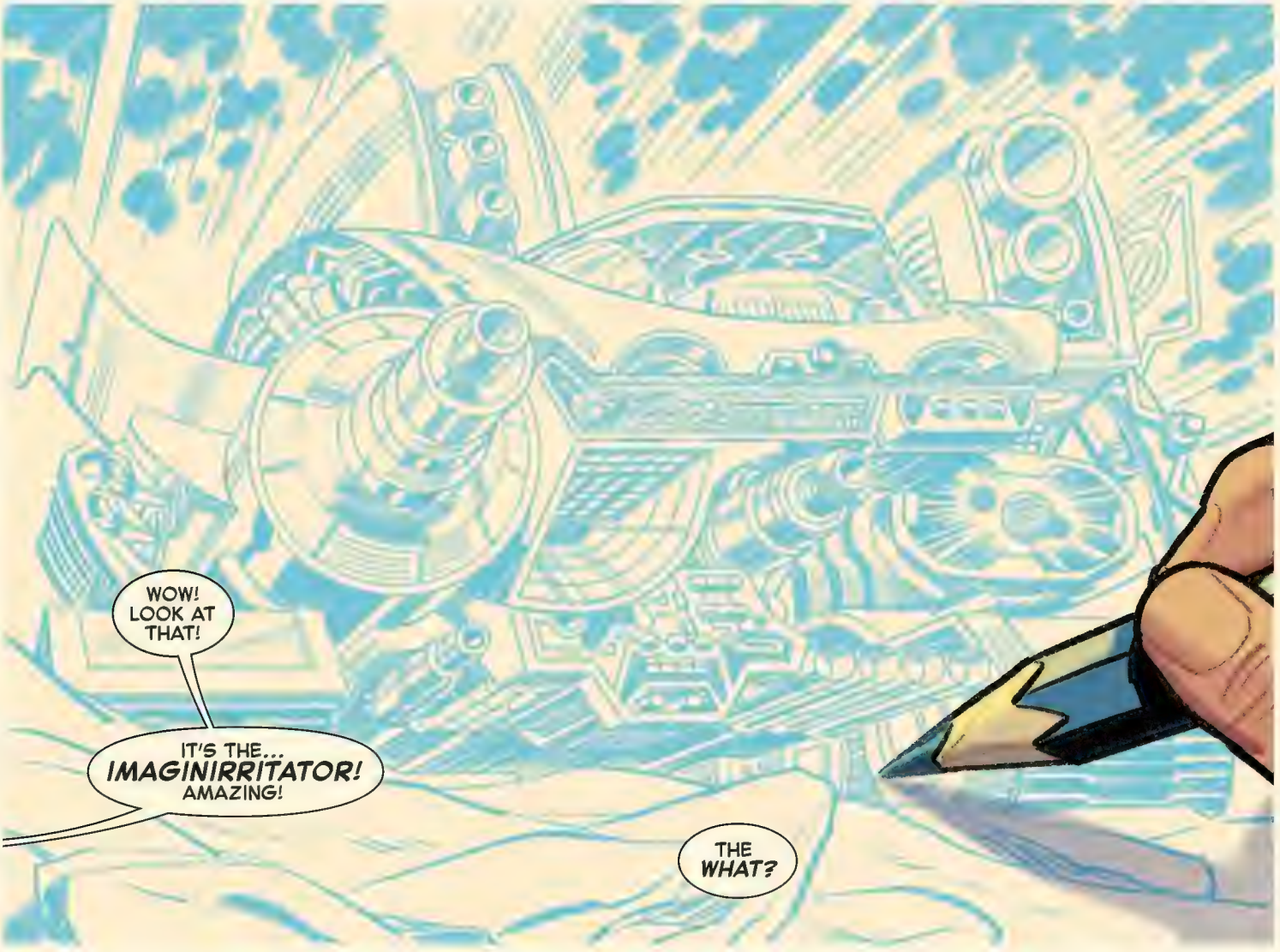
KNOCK! KNOCK!
1206
WAIT... HOW DO I KNOW IT'S REALLY YOU THIS TIME?
BECAUSE I KNOW SOMETHING LOKI COULDN'T POSSIBLY KNOW.
REMEMBER THAT SPECIAL COMMISSION YOU DID FOR ME OF...

OH MY GOD! THAT WAS AT THE END OF SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON! IN 2012! IT WAS FOUR IN THE MORNING! I WASN'T IN MY RIGHT MIND!
WELL, I WAS. AND I LOVE THAT DRAWING! ANYWAY, ON TO THE MATTER AT HAND.
1206
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN REGAIN CONTROL OF THIS STORY. WHAT IF WE GIVE CAP A NEW IDEA?

SKRITCH SKRATCH!
HEADS-UP, AVENGERS! I'VE GOT A PLAN!

YES! WE'RE BACK IN CONTROL OF THE STORY! SO CAP SAYS...
...THE VORTEX IS ESSENTIALLY A CONSTRUCT THAT SOMEHOW WEAPONIZES A PERCEPTION OF TRUTH.
THEREFORE, OUR JOB IS TO CREATE A DEVICE THAT DOES THE *OPPOSITE*. WE EACH NEED TO DRAW FROM OUR *TALENTS*, NOT OUR *POWERS*--IRON MAN'S ENGINEERING SKILLS, GIANT-MAN'S MOLECULAR MANIPULATION, HULK'S GAMMA RADIATION--
TO DO WHAT? TO CREATE A MACHINE THAT WEAPONIZES *LIES?*
NO, I GET IT! WE CREATE A MACHINE THAT WEAPONIZES... THE *IMAGINATION!* THAT'S WHAT POWERS IT!
EXACTLY!
UH...I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DRAW "IMAGINATION."
FWWAAASSHHH!
THAT'S OKAY...

I CAN. I'M AN ARTIST TOO, REMEMBER?
I KNEW YOU WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE IT BACK HERE, STEVE!
SAY, HOW DO YOU KNOW MY REAL NAME?
BECAUSE WE'RE FANS! WE KNOW WHO ALL OF YOU ARE-- TONY STARK, STEVE ROGERS, BRUCE BANNER, JANET VAN DYNE, AND HANK PYM!
WOW, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW EACH OTHER'S IDENTITIES!
WELL, YOU DO NOW! HAVE A SEAT, STEVE!
LET'S GET STARTED. IT SHOULD BE LIKE THE WORLD'S LARGEST TRANSISTOR RADIO, EMITTING WAVES OF SUGGESTIONS INSTEAD OF SOUND.
A GAMMA RAY COMPONENT WOULD MAKE IT TOO DANGEROUS. BUT X-RAYS WOULD WORK. THEY CAN PASS THROUGH ANYTHING AND ILLUMINATE IT MORE EFFECTIVELY.
A MINIATURE NUCLEAR REACTOR WOULD GIVE IT THE POWER AND STRENGTH OF AN ANT A THOUSAND TIMES ITS SIZE!
BOYS AND THEIR TOYS...


WOW! LOOK AT THAT!
IT'S THE... IMAGINIRRITATOR! AMAZING!
THE WHAT?

THE IMAGINIRRITATOR! THAT'S WHAT WE SHOULD CALL IT!
DOESN'T EXACTLY ROLL OFF THE TONGUE, BUT SURE, LET'S GO WITH IT.

IMPRESSIVE. BUT IT'S THERE...

...AND YOU'RE HERE.

AND LOOK WHO ELSE IS HERE!
SMASH!
SUIT UP, AVENGERS!
WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM HERE-- THERE ARE CIVILIANS!
WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE? I'LL TAKE THE UGLY ONE!
YOU'LL HAVE TO BE MORE SPECIFIC!
WE HAVE TO CLEAR THEM OUT OF HERE!
HOW?!
GRRRRRRGGGGHHH...

RAAARRRRRGGGH!
WHUMMPPP!
I DON'T HAVE INSURANCE FOR THIS!
HURRY! LET'S GET TO THE DRAWING BOARD!
OKAY, SO...
WOOOSSSHHH!

WHAAM!
THOR! YOU MADE IT!
YOUR PENCIL SUMMONS, SO I ARRIVE!
LOKI WON'T BE OUT FOR LONG! HE'LL BE HOT ON OUR TRAIL. WE HAVE TO GET TO THE IMAGINIRRITATOR FIRST!
WE'RE GOING BACK! LET'S MOVE!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
BAH, HULK WAS JUST STARTING TO HAVE FUN.
WAIT! ISN'T IT TOO SOON TO GO THROUGH THE VORTEX AGAIN?
IT'S A CHANCE WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE.
WE'VE ONLY GOT MOMENTS TO GET THERE BEFORE LOKI DOES!
I'M TAKING CONTROL OF THIS STORY! THIS TIME WHEN YOU ALL GO THROUGH THE VORTEX, YOU *WILL* BE RESTORED!

WHHH
WHOA! LOOK AT THAT!
M!

IT WORKED! GREAT JOB, EVERYONE!

ASSUME YOUR STATIONS!

NUCLEAR-POWERED INDUCTOR

DE-REGISTRATION BEAM.

X-TROV CANNON

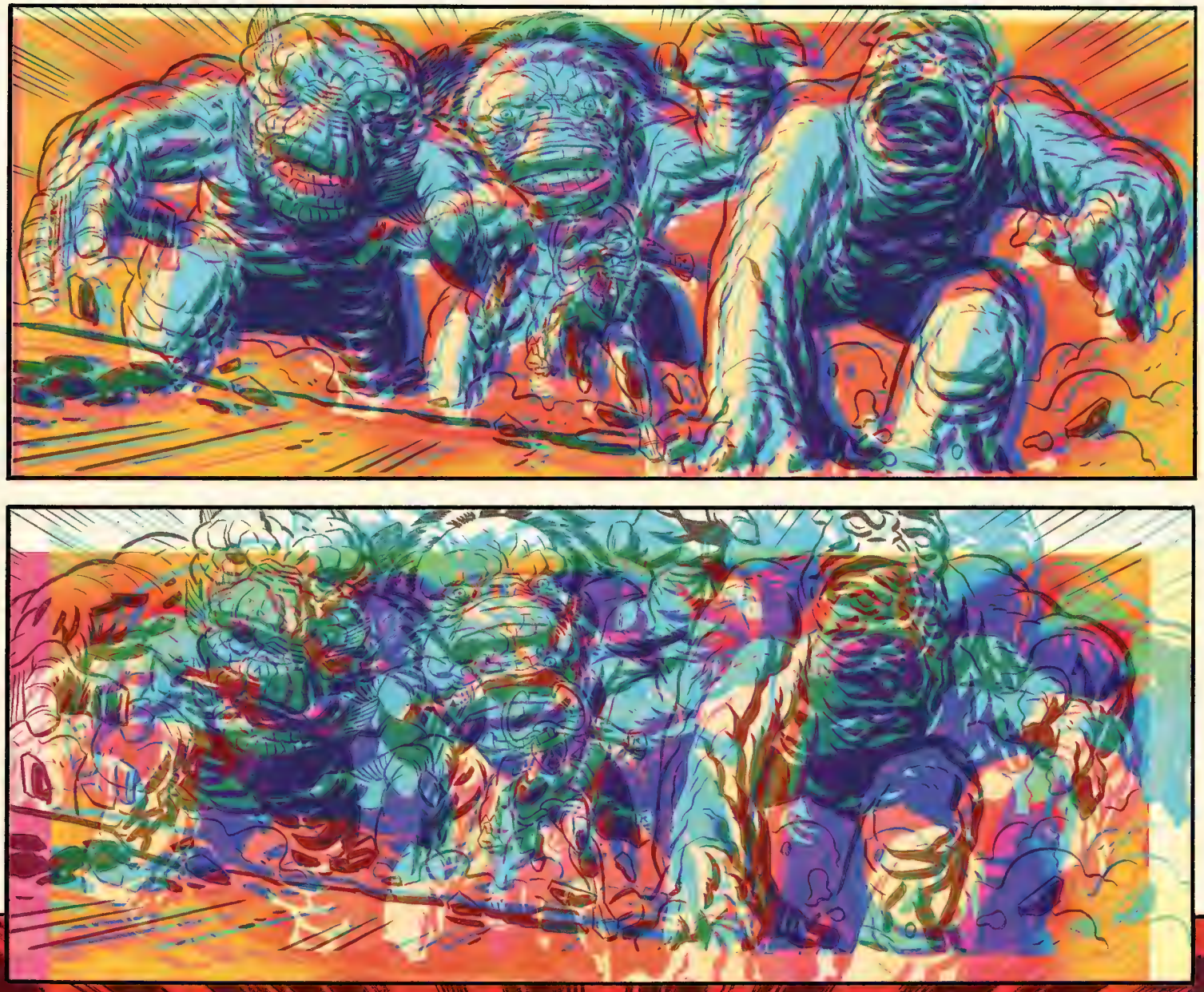
SONIC SUGGESTOR COMPU-TRON!

X-RAY PULSE COILS

VANADIUM STEEL TANK TREADS!

A MIGHTY MARVEL BONUS-- SECRETS OF THE INCREDIBLE IMAGINIRRITATOR!

AND NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON! HERE THEY COME!
QUICK, HIT THEM WITH THE DE-REGISTRATION BEAM!
ZWAAAPP!



WHUMPPP!

THEY'RE DOWN! BUT I CAN'T SAY FOR HOW LONG.

OKAY, WE GET ONE SHOT AT THIS. LOKI WILL TRANSPORT THAT THING TO WHO-KNOWS-WHERE WHEN HE WAKES UP. TONY, AIM THE ***X-TROV CANNON*** AT THE VORTEX. FIRE ON MY MARK.

WAIT! WE HAVE TO GO BACK THROUGH THE VORTEX BEFORE YOU DESTROY IT! WE CAN'T STAY HERE!

YEAH, THIS HAS BEEN CRAZY FUN, BUT I REALLY SHOULD BE GETTING HOME TO MY FAMILY.

ME TOO. I MISS MY BOYFRIEND.

WELL, I'M SORRY TO STEP ON THE MOMENT, BUT I FEEL LIKE WE'VE ALL BEEN MANIPULATED BY YOU. I DON'T--

HEY, I--

JAN, IT'S OKAY. WE'VE DEALT WITH TOUGHER STUFF THAN THIS.

HAVE WE? HAVE WE DEALT WITH SOMETHING TOUGHER THAN THE FACT THAT WE'RE JUST SOMEONE ELSE'S IDEA?!

BUT JAN...

WE *ALL* ARE. YOU, ME, EVERYONE. WE'RE ***ALL*** SOMEONE ELSE'S IDEA. IT'S THE ONLY THING EVERYONE HAS IN COMMON.

NO ONE ASKS TO BE BORN. THAT'S YOUR ***PARENTS'*** IDEA.

NO ONE ASKS TO BE CREATED.

BUT ONCE YOU ARE, THEN IT'S UP TO YOU. HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE IDEA THAT IS ***YOU?*** WHAT KIND OF IDEA DO YOU WANT TO BE?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE ***BAD THINGS*** THAT COME YOUR WAY?

AND HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE TREMENDOUS ***POWER,*** IF THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE INCREDIBLE ***SKILL*** THAT YOU CAN GROW INTO ASTOUNDING ***ARTISTRY?*** DO YOU WORK AT IT--OR DO YOU DECIDE IT'S NOT WORTH THE EFFORT AND THROW IT AWAY?

WELL, I'VE EXPOUNDED ENOUGH. COME ON, OFF WE GO.
WELL SAID, KIDD. READY?
ONE SEC! I'M GUESSING THAT WHEN CHIP AND I GO THROUGH THE VORTEX, YOU'LL DESTROY IT. AND YOU'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT US AND OUR REALM. BUT WE WON'T FORGET YOU. HOW COULD WE? WE LEARNED RIGHT AND WRONG FROM YOU--LESSONS THAT WE'VE CARRIED OUR WHOLE LIVES.
AS A KID, READING YOUR STORIES UNDER THE COVERS WITH A FLASHLIGHT, I FOUND ENTIRE UNIVERSES INSIDE THOSE STAPLED PAGES. FOUR-COLOR PICTURES AND IDEAS THAT SET MY BRAIN ON FIRE.
ALL THAT CHEAP NEWSPRINT ENDURED, AND IT BUILT A LEGACY THAT THE CREATORS WHO CAME BEFORE US COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED. FOR KIDS LIKE ME AND CHIP, THOSE COMICS WEREN'T DISPOSABLE PULP. THEY WERE OUR *DREAMS.*
I UNDERSTAND, AND YOU'RE WELCOME. GOOD LUCK!
FIRING UP THE X-TROV CANNON. JUMP, BOYS!
THREE, TWO, ONE...

WHOOOSH

SO...IT WORKED?
OF COURSE IT DID. LOKI IS IN AN ASGARDIAN HOLDING CELL. THE MONSTERS ARE DOING HARD LABOR IN NIFFLEHEIM. AND THE VERACITY VORTEX HAS BEEN DESTROYED. I THINK THAT COVERS IT.
AND THE AVENGERS?
THEY'RE OFF TO THE NEXT ADVENTURE. THEY ALWAYS ARE. HEY, WE ONLY HAD SIXTY-FOUR PAGES TO TELL THIS STORY.
BUT WHAT DO WE DO WITH WHAT WE HAVE LEFT?

DON'T SWEAT IT. MY BRAIN IS *EXPLODING* WITH IDEAS. JUST WAIT TILL YOU SEE...

CHIP KIDD
+
MICHAEL CHO
+
THE AVENGERS
CAPTAIN AMERICA, IRON MAN,
THOR, THE HULK, GIANT-MAN,
AND THE WASP
=
Another all-new graphic novel brought to you by
Marvel Arts
+
Abrams ComicArts—
where nothing is impossible and
anything can happen!
MARVEL
© 2025 MARVEL